



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

TEXAS, West

Brewster County

1 N Alpine

04 1655CST 0 0 10K Thunderstorm Wind

A thunderstorm moving over the city of Alpine collapsed, producing a wet microburst that blew the roof off a trailer, overturned a carport, and knocked down sheds. The storm was not moving extremely fast (at 18kt) but was the fastest moving of the 44 cells on the Midland radar. The storm dumped half its volume in one 6 minute scan with the VIL dropping from 38 to 19 kg/m2. The debris was blown in the direction of the storm movement (NE-SW).

Ector County

Pleasant Farms

10 1505CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (52)

Midland County

6 ESE Midland

10 1520CST 0 0 10K Thunderstorm Wind

Scattered damage was caused by a microburst along State Highway 158. Of note was the fact that the storms in the area were moving to the north but the most damaging winds blew debris to the south. A pole barn was blown across a couple of fields and dead trees were knocked down.

Although Midland's sounding showed an inverted-V pattern, suggesting dry microbursts, the sounding also showed 1.36 inches of precipitable water, which is over 130% of normal. These factors combined to have evaporation and water drag for downbursting. The radar in the local area of the storms was dotted with small thunderstorms--within a radius of 30 miles there were 20-25 storms at the time of the damage.

Brewster County

17 NE Study Butte

11 1615CST 0 0 3K Thunderstorm Wind

A wet microburst destroyed two cab-over pickup truck trailers. One trailer was thrown over utility lines into an adjacent yard while the other trailer was thrown into a utility pole.

Midland County

4 SW Midland

12 1520CST 0 0 Flash Flood
1730CST

Heavy rains over the southern half of Midland flooded streets with deep water in some areas. Water was running downhill on Midland Drive toward a drainage area, and converging waters at the drainage area caused a piling of the running water to a depth of about 3 feet on the Business I-20 access road.

Pecos County

Girvin

15 1813CST 0 0 4K Thunderstorm Wind (52)

A cell among a multicell cluster moving to the northeast in northern Pecos County produced microburst winds that damaged structures in the Girvin community. A 2-foot section of the south wall of a house was partly separated from the flooring as upward forces by the wind on the eaves tried to lift the wall from its connection with the floor. An old convenience store had 2/3 of its corrugated roof blown off by the wind and other parts of the roof curled up. A 30x10 foot goat pen was moved and overturned on the north end of the property. The pen was open on the south side allowing the wind to enter freely but the wind was trapped by the other walls. The pen was moved approximately 12 feet to the north and rolled 1/4 turn onto the back wall. All of the debris was blown to the northeast.

The cluster of storms developed near the dry line and moved to the northeast at about 20 mph. The cell that caused the damage had indications of a weak elevated mesocyclone on the Midland 88D that dissipated before moving into the Girvin area. In the vicinity of the storms, surface temperatures were in the mid 90s with dew points in the lower 60s. The storm survey resulted in assigning the estimated wind speed of 60 mph.



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property Crops	Character of Storm
TEXAS, West								
Dawson County								
17 SW Lamesa	17	2200CST			0	1	8K	Thunderstorm Wind (65)
A microburst in southwest Dawson County caused damage on a couple of properties. One metal shed and two wooden sheds were destroyed by the winds. A greenhouse was heavily damaged and a travel trailer with two occupants was pushed up against an adjacent barn. One of the occupants sustained slight injuries to both of his knees from flying objects in the trailer. Corrugated metal was strewn around the area as well. Farther south a water pump was wrenched from its connections and was irreparable.								
A damage survey was accomplished finding a divergent pattern over an area about 1/2 mile wide. On the northeastern end of the damage, debris was blown to 310 degrees versus the water pump (to the south) was blown to 228 degrees. The damage survey team estimated a wind speed of 65 kt.								
Howard County								
Big Spring	18	1530CST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
Jeff Davis County								
35 NNW Ft Davis	18	1615CST			0	0	0.50K	Thunderstorm Wind
Downbursting winds blew a trampoline 100 yards.								
Dawson County								
Friendship	18	1700CST 1900CST			0	0		Flash Flood
Very heavy rains from thunderstorms flooded the intersection of FM 2051 and FM 829 in the Friendship community of southwestern Dawson County. The intersection flooded up to 3 feet deep with both water and thick mud								
Midland County								
4 NW Midland	18	1742CST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
Midland County								
Maf	18	1749CST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (56)
Midland County								
2 N Midland	18	1756CST			0	0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind
Damaging outflow winds from thunderstorms knocked down trees and power lines in Midland.								
Midland County								
1 S Maf	18	2015CST 2100CST			0	0		Flash Flood
An underpass on Business I-20 was flooded and closed after heavy rains fell over the area.								
Pecos County								
Imperial	18	1751CST			0	0	1K	Thunderstorm Wind
Downbursting winds blew shingles off houses.								
Ector County								
Pleasant Farms	18	1825CST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (55)
Ector County								
Odessa	18	1930CST 2030CST			0	0		Flash Flood
West County Rd. on the west side of Odessa became flooded with the deepest water between 12th and 13th Streets. Also cars were stalled in high water near the Pueblo x 10th St. intersection.								
Glasscock County								
St Lawrence	18	2004CST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (52)
A Sheriff's Deputy estimated 60 mph outflow winds that almost blew his vehicle off the highway.								



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 1997

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

TEXAS, West

Howard County

8 NE Big Spring

22

2156CST
2330CST

0

0

Flash Flood

Flooding on State Highway 350 northeast of Big Spring resulted in stranded autos. The flooding was over a 2 mile stretch in various low spots.